

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates

June 30, 2011

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Breaking News

Approved FY 2011-12 Budget Reductions

Budget balancing measures were approved for FY 2011-12 that begins July 1, 2011. This is a <u>document</u> that identifies the reductions and the amount saved. As with every year since the economic downturn, reductions were approved with the client's health in mind and the preservation of our safetynet providers.

If you would like more information, please contact <u>Joanne Zahora</u>.

Long-Term Care Advisory Committee Application Solicitation

The Long-Term Care Advisory Committee is soliciting applications for membership. The LTC Advisory Committee's charter is to discuss, research and advise the Department on recommended policies and processes. The Money Follows the Person grant is providing us with funding to support our long-term care reform efforts. The committee serves as a conduit between the long-term care community and the Department.

If you would like to be involved, please click here for more information, or contact Nicole Storm.

Improving Health Outcomes

Change in Medicaid Eligibility

Legislation to change the eligibly level for pregnant women in Family Medicaid from 133% FPL to 185% FPL was signed by Governor Hickenlooper on June 1, 2010. The CHP+ program will continue to cover pregnant women up to 250% FPL.

Implementing this legislation will involve system changes with an estimated implementation date of January 2013.

If you would like more information, please contact Alan Kislowitz.

Teen Pregnancy & Dropout Prevention Program Reauthorized SB 177, the Teen Pregnancy & Dropout Prevention Program, reauthorized the state's program that allows qualified Medicaid providers to deliver pregnancy prevention programming to at-risk teens. The goal of the program is to prevent unintended teen pregnancy and pregnancy-related school dropouts.



Participating communities raise 10 percent of the costs of the program and federal funds cover the remaining 90 percent. Programs must use evidence-based sexual health education models that help youth prevent the onset of sexual activity, reduce the frequency of encounters or the number of partners, and increase consistent, correct contraceptive use among those who remain sexually active. The bill also requires participating providers to report the effectiveness of their program, increasing transparency and accountability around efforts to reduce unintended teen pregnancy. For more information, please contact <u>Lisa Keenan</u>.

Increasing the Number of Insured Coloradans

Apply Online!

Citizens across Colorado were able to submit an application online for cash, food, and medical assistance at PEAK, Colorado.gov/PEAK.

PEAK creates one additional channel through which Colorado's adults, children and families can access the self-sufficiency benefits they need to thrive.

Partner Support

Healthy People 2020 Call for Proposals

There is a call for proposals for the Healthy People 2020 Community Innovations Project.

This project, administered by John Snow, Inc. (JSI) as part of a contract it has with the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP), will fund non-profit, community-based organizations with budgets less than \$750,000 to implement projects that address Healthy People 2020 overarching goals, topic areas and objectives and integrate at least one of the following Healthy People 2020 Community Innovation Project priorities: environmental justice, health equity, and healthy behaviors across all life stages. As many as 170 projects will be given between \$5,000 to \$10,000 to conduct projects between December 1, 2011 and May 31, 2012.

The deadline for submitting an application in response to this Request for Proposal (RFP) is Friday, **August 5, 2011**. The RFP is also available online.

Eligible applicants in Mountain and Pacific Time zones:

12:00 p.m. MDT/11:00 a.m. PDT

Please follow this link to register:

https://jsi.webex.com/jsi/j.php?ED=150472232&RG=1&UID=0&RT=MiM2

Dial: 1.877.223.6135; Conference I.D.: 705.32.378

Healthy Initiatives

We are working with community partners to identify an appropriate policy agenda for tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.

Two new reports from the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network measure the dramatic health and economic benefits of enacting strong tobacco control policies at the state level. The reports quantify lives saved, reduction in smokers and health costs saved in each state from implementing comprehensive smoke-free laws or tobacco tax increases:

http://www.acscan.org/tobaccoreports

New warning labels on cigarette packages show graphic images of the effects of tobacco use. Larger, more visible and graphic warnings have been shown to have a significant effect on reducing tobacco use.

If you would like more information, please contact Lisa Waugh.

Employment Opportunities

Applying for state jobs has just become easier! Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the new <u>Web site</u> and our jobs.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In May 2011 there were 583,951 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 66,922 clients were enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Web site, Budget.

